

Jan 30<sup>th</sup> 1842

Miss Caroline Weston.

99 Summer St.

Ms. A. 9. 2. 17. 30

Dedham Jan. 30. '42.

My Dear Caroline:

According to your request I have  
written the accompanying letter to Mr. Webb  
of the Boston paper - if that does not satisfy  
his master he must have the paper of our  
and a copy. Gibbons tells me however that  
your box has gone - if it be too late to  
so as to let it alone - for it is not worth  
postage. He tells me, moreover, that it  
must be unsealed - so I send it in that  
defenseless condition. I wish you to under-  
stand; however, that I do not yet recognize  
the Committee, & would not having yet heard  
of the result of the Lyndon Convention - & that  
it has been irreverently called so that  
you are not to read it. And I think I can  
pay you no higher compliment at the  
supremacy of your sex than by telling you that the  
reason why you may not read it, is that  
it is safer about yourselves, & then  
suddenly it is unsealed. The whole  
temptation was not even a circumstance  
to come. But I confide in you without



stunt. So ad suppose however, that I  
supposed in earnest that you would read  
it had I had forbidden it. I only put in  
the sentence to fill up

Mrs Collins told me that Brother Peires  
was not alone in his disapprobation of the  
E. L. M. W. C. "articles". She said that Saml.  
Sewall had expressed his several gratitude  
at the recovery of Garrison that there might  
be no more of those horrible articles. "Think  
of that M. W. C. 'you have given' and  
worthier man much cause of uneasiness" as  
Joseph Larpence says to Charles, when he has  
Ludy Lezelle behind the screen & his Peter  
in the closet. I trust you will learn to amend  
your manners. "Crown Chapman, Crown!"

By the way, I did n't have a chance  
to tell you of the reason of C's misfortune  
during the Annual Meeting, touching which  
we speculated to some extent. Coniam  
whispered to me the other morning at your  
house, that it was because he thought that  
there was a wish to confine the speaking to  
a few speakers, & to exclude others - including  
himself! Did you ever hear anything so  
absurd? I think that next year (if I  
don't see you) in the meantime I  
shall sit in one corner, with my finger  
in my eye, because the meetings had



rather hear Wendell a fanatical than me  
or call for them oftener, & let them lead  
than they do me. I think, indeed, that I am  
a very ill used individual. They did not  
call for me once - & if I had not spoken at  
all I don't believe they would have noticed  
it - as they have done before now, the villainy.  
I always used to wonder what was the use of  
their getting Bulwer to make impenetrable armor  
for Achilles when he was already invulnerable  
by being dipped in Elder Knapp's fashion - only, I  
believe he does not hold his converts by the  
heel in the style - but I now begin to think  
that it was a wise precaution. Though his  
skin might answer to keep off a spear or a javelin  
he might be tickled to death by a gad - and  
that was probably his reason. I thank God  
that I was born with the hide of a Rhinoceros.  
I have since guarded it with the plate  
armor of philosophy. Nothing less could have  
saved me from sinning at the Board when  
they picked out the eyes of my <sup>the other day</sup> boat - & especially  
at fanism, the scamp. I was more provoked  
than at anything that has happened to me before  
-ally since I came into the cause. Anything  
else they might have had welcome. "But  
there where I had paraded as my heart!"  
It was too bad entirely. And then the fellows  
afterwards, after he had put in his thumb & pulled  
out the biggest plumb out of my <sup>my</sup> pie, with  
all the self complacency & congratulation of  
the illustrious John Horner, in his immortal  
corner, to ask me to stick in one of his old  
stale last year's raisins in its stead!



I think he must have a small cross  
of Milesian blood in his veins. I begin  
to think that he is the greatest obstacle to the  
progress of the cause - that the time has come  
when he can retire with honor & himself and  
advantage to the enterprise.

What is this James tells me about Charles  
Adams refusing to have anything to do with  
the Latimer Petition? I suppose it means that  
he ~~was~~ <sup>has</sup> the ridicule of the public meeting would  
not justify it. And I doubt I should feel  
very much so myself, were I in his place.  
For notwithstanding my bragging of the thrust  
-back of my skin, it is not proof to ridicule so  
by a really absurd situation. And such it  
seems to me would be that of a little man  
with a bald head standing up in Faneuil  
Hall, <sup>blushing like a fine cabbage,</sup> having speeches made at him, if not  
progress sprung upon him, enjoying upon him  
to take good care of a corpulent roll of paper.  
at least I hope he has done nothing worse - for  
he is one of the few of my old friends that have  
not been changed by my extravagance. I am  
sorry for the multiplication of Howditch, though  
he has brought it upon himself - for he should  
have found out all about the readiness of the signing  
of the Petition before anything was done about the  
meeting. But it will be a profitable experience to  
him. As to Cabot, I don't suppose he will  
care much about it. And as to Channing  
I don't care anything about him. Please  
write me a line <sup>tomorrow</sup> telling me all about it  
& about it, & any other of the humours of New  
Hall - to which those of Bartholomew Fair

MS. A. 9. 2. 12. 3